

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 203241

70

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PPT-02 SCA-01 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 RSC-01 FBIE-00 INSE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03

SS-20 SCS-03 CPR-02 SAJ-01 /087 R

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EUR/CE:SGEORGE

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R 161837Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION BERLIN

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 203241

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UK, GE, GW

SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO AND THROUGH GDR

REF: STATE 001446 OF JANUARY 4, 1974

1. BEFORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF OUR EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN, WHICH WE ARE TENTATIVELY PLANNING FOR EARLY NOVEMBER, THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO PREPARE GUIDELINES FOR TRAVEL BY EMBASSY PERSONNEL TO THEIR POST AND TO AGREE ON SUCH MODIFICATIONS OF TRAVEL REGULATIONS FOR USBER PERSONNEL AS THE NEW SITUATION MAY PERMIT OR MAKE DESIRABLE. IN ADDITION, THERE IS A NEED TO ADOPT AGREED PROCEDURES FOR OTHER HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS WHO MAY WISH TO TRANSIT OR VISIT THE GDR.

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PAGE 02 STATE 203241

2. IN DEPARTMENT'S VIEW, THE BEST PROCEDURE WOULD BE TO REVIVE THE TRIPARTITE STUDY OF TRAVEL PRACTICES. THIS STUDY APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN DORMANT FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, PARTIALLY BECAUSE US DID NOT HAVE AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR TRAVEL GUIDELINES, BUT ALSO BECAUSE FRENCH AND TO A LESSER DEGREE BRITISH WERE RELUCTANT TO ADOPT FIRM PROCEDURES ON A TRIPARTITE BASIS.

3. USBER IS REQUESTED TO RAISE THIS MATTER WITH ALLIES

WITH A VIEW TO COMPLETING THE STUDY AT AN EARLY DATE AND FORWARDING IT TO EMBASSIES FOR REVIEW, FOLLOWING WHICH EMBASSIES SHOULD REFER COMPLETED REPORT TO CAPITALS FOR APPROVAL. IF IT APPEARS THAT NO PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE ON TRIPARTITE BASIS IN BERLIN, USBER SHOULD SUBMIT RECOMMENDED TRAVEL PROCEDURES TO DEPARTMENT, NOTING WHERE POSSIBLE PROCEDURES NOW BEING EMPLOYED BY OTHER ALLIES. DEPARTMENT WOULD THEN PLAN TO DISCUSS SUBJECT WITH ALLIED EMBASSIES HERE.

4. DEPARTMENT'S PRELIMINARY THINKING ON THIS SUBJECT CONTAINED REFTTEL AND USBER SHOULD BE GUIDED ACCORDINGLY IN DISCUSSIONS WITH ALLIES. DEPARTMENT PREPARED TO CONSIDER MODIFICATION OF PRINCIPLE CONTAINED PARA 3(D) TO PERMIT TRAVEL BY EAST BERLIN EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND DEPENDENTS ON DUTY TRAINS, USING IDENTIFICATION OTHER THAN PASSPORT SHOWING EAST BERLIN ASSIGNMENT. IN US CASE, THIS WOULD MEAN TRAVEL ON AGO CARD AND FLAG ORDERS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, PERSONNEL TRAVEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: papenddr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE203241
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JBECKER:SG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740260-0069
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740942/aaaabjcf.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 001446 OF JANUARY 4, 1974
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: papenddr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUN 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <21 JUN 2005 by powellba2>; APPROVED <21 JUN 2005 by blochd0>; APPROVED <21 JUN 2005 by papenddr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL TO AND THROUGH GDR
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, US, UK, GC, FR, UR, WB
To: BERLIN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005